

MODI GETS SEOUL PEACE PRIZE FOR FOSTERING GLOBAL LINKS

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Korean honour:Narendra Modi receiving the Seoul Peace Prize in Seoul on Friday.PTI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was given the Seoul Peace Prize for 2018 on Friday for his contribution to international cooperation and fostering global economic growth.

The Seoul Peace Prize Foundation presented the award at a grand ceremony here. A short film on the life and achievements of Mr. Modi was screened.

Mr. Modi said, "This award belongs not to me personally, but to the people of India. The success that India has achieved in the last five years is due to aspirations, inspiration and efforts of the people of India. On their behalf, I accept the award and express my gratitude."

He said he was honoured that the award is being conferred on him in the year that India celebrated the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

The Prime Minister dedicated the \$200,000 (Rs. 1.42 crore) prize money to the Namami Gange programme that seeks to stop pollution in the Ganga and rejuvenate the river.

Mr. Modi expressed concern over terrorism, and recalled that a few weeks before the Seoul Olympics in 1988, an organisation called the Al-Qaeda was formed. As South Korea, India also suffered the pain of cross-border strife.

"Our endeavour towards peaceful developments has only too often been derailed by cross-border terrorism. While India has been the victim of cross-border terrorism for over 40 years, all nations today face this grave threat which respects no borders," he said, in an apparent reference to Pakistan.

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